



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.3229

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Hiroyuki WATANABE et al. )  
) Group Art Unit: 2184  
Application No.: 10/765,142 )  
) Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: January 28, 2004 )  
)  
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING ) Confirmation No.: 9726  
APPARATUS AND NETWORK )  
CONNECTION DIAGNOSTIC METHOD )  
USED IN THE SAME APPARATUS )  
)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants attach copies of the listed documents. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The documents listed in this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in the attached Notification of Reasons for Rejection ("Notification") from the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding Japanese Patent Application.

In lieu of a statement of relevance of the non-English document, an English translation of the Notification is attached. A copy of the Notification is also attached. Applicants do not necessarily endorse the conclusion set forth in the Notification.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 9, 2006

By:   
Darrell D. Kinder, Jr.  
Reg. No. 57,460



JPS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/765,142		
		Filing Date	January 28, 2004		
		First Named Inventor	Hiroyuki WATANABE et al.		
		Art Unit	2184		
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	04329.3229

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

**Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 9-297721	11-18-1997			No
		JP 2001-352333	12-21-2001			No

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Notification of Reasons for Rejection from the Japanese Patent Office, mailed November 8, 2005 in Patent Application No. 2003-022153, and English translation thereof	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.